

Indianapolis Sister Cities International

Indianapolis as a Cultural Crossroad

Taipei, Taiwan
Hangzhou, China

Cologne, Germany
Campinas, Brazil

Monza, Italy
Northamptonshire County, UK

Piran, Slovenia
Hyderabad, India



2014 Annual Report

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- Receive our newsletter

8

Sister Cities

By the
numbers

10

Sister City
Committees

41

Programs &
Events

85

Community
Partners

434

Volunteers



FROM THE MAYOR

Greetings,

I am pleased by the results of the Indy Sister Cities Program. The program is one successful way to promote international affairs in Indianapolis. It allows us to connect to different parts of the world through education, economics and culture.

The Indy Sister Cities Program participates in foreign exchange opportunities, plans cultural and educational events, hosts foreign delegations and engages youth through a scholarship program and poster contest. The program opens doors for Indy residents to explore the world.

In November 2014, I traveled to Germany with my wife, Winnie, to attend the 25th Anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall. This was a historical experience because it reminded me how important cultural conversations and opportunities are to achieve peace and prosperity in our world today.

The Indy Sister Cities Program gives our residents and visitors the chance to experience diverse cultures within our city. You do not have to buy a plane ticket because the Sister Cities Programs brings diversity to your neighborhood here in Indy.

Indianapolis is a global crossroads; we welcome the world.

Sincerely,



Gregory A. Ballard
Mayor, City of Indianapolis



Right: Mayor Ballard speaking at World Trade Day, April 25, 2014.

Below: World Trade Day at the Hilton in Indianapolis sponsored by the Indy Chamber.



L to R: Heinz Spizig, Angela Spizig (former Deputy Mayor of Cologne, Germany), Mrs. Ballard and Mayor Ballard in Berlin, Germany celebrating the 25th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall.

FROM THE DIRECTOR



Jane signing an agreement at the 2014 Hangzhou Sister City Mayor's Conference in Hangzhou, China.



Jane serves as the chair of the Membership Committee on the SCI Board of Directors. Pictured here with other board members in Tempe, Arizona.



Indianapolis' Sister Cities Committee leaders with Jane and Mayor Ballard at the Celebration on December 8, 2014.

Greetings,

There's more than corn in Indiana. In fact, there are samosas, dumplings, tiramisu and more. There's also a curiosity to engage with other cultures locally.

Every year, I am humbled by the support of our sponsors, community partners and volunteers who make the Indy Sister Cities Program successful. 2014 was a year of many firsts. Read through the Annual Report to learn more about our programs and achievements.

We were honored that the "Taste of Indianapolis" exhibit organized by the Hangzhou Sister City Committee in Hangzhou, China won the "Most Innovative" sister city award at the U.S. – China Sister Cities Conference in Washington, D.C.

The Teacher and Student Outreach Committee hosted a Teachers' Conference and sponsored two students to attend the Sister Cities International Youth Summit conference in San Jose.

We participated in the Spirit & Place Festival for the first time this year by hosting "Become a Citizen Diplomat." Three Indianapolis professionals traveled to our sister cities on a vocational exchange and shared their experiences.

Sister Cities International (SCI), headquartered in Washington, D.C., is a non-profit city-to-city network inspired by President Eisenhower's suggestion that citizen diplomacy might reduce the chance of future world conflict. Citizen diplomacy encourages ordinary citizens to take responsibility for international affairs and not leave it simply in the hands of the elected officials.

SCI represents more than 2,500 communities in 135 countries around the world.

We encourage you to become a Citizen Diplomat (find out more on the back cover) and get involved in this exciting initiative!

Jane Gehlhausen
Director, International & Cultural Affairs
Office of Mayor Gregory A. Ballard





OUR SISTER CITIES COMMITTEE PRESIDENTS



Taipei, Taiwan
Est. 1978
Dr. Chao-Hung Lee



Cologne, Germany
Est. 1988
Martin Baier



Monza, Italy
Est. 1994
Paola Santini



Piran, Slovenia
Est. 2001
Josef Laposa



**Teacher and Student
Outreach Committee**
Est. 2012
Susan Tomlinson



**Northamptonshire
County, UK**
Est. 2009
Jeff Kitchen



Hangzhou, China
Est. 2008
Sherry Dong



Campinas, Brazil
Est. 2009
Raquel Ward



Hyderabad, India
Est. 2010
Raju Chinthala



**Sister Cities Fest
Committee Chair**
Est. 2012
Jane Gehlhausen



TEACHER AND STUDENT OUTREACH COMMITTEE

INDY AS A GLOBAL CROSSROADS CONFERENCE

Our Teacher and Student Outreach Committee upholds and expands our vision to give youth the best opportunity to thrive in the new global world. The 2014 Teachers' Conference was held this summer through funding from FOCUS 2020, an initiative of the Peace Learning Center.

The workshop aimed to strengthen teachers' and administrators' understanding of Indianapolis' changing cultural diversity by enabling schools to better engage all students in their communities.



1. Sandra Brown, Susan Tomlinson, Mayor Greg Ballard, Ruth E. Van Reken and Jane Gehlhausen.



2. Conference attendees network with each other.

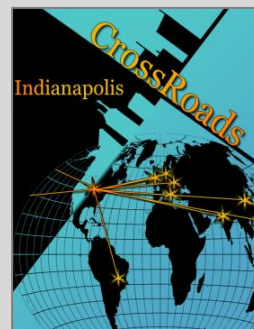
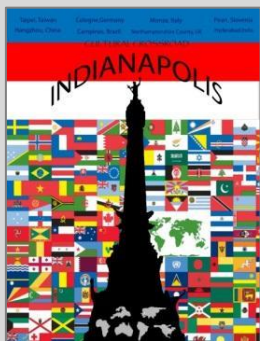
3. International speaker and author, Ruth E. Van Reken, speaks about Third Culture Kids.

4. Student panelists share their stories.



POSTER CONTEST

Each year, we hold a poster contest open to all Marion County K-12 schools. The theme of this year's poster contest was "Indianapolis as a Cultural Crossroads." The first place design is also featured on the cover of our annual report each year.



1st place: Chad Veal,
Franklin Central High School



2nd place: Lydia Bird,
Covenant Christian



3rd place: Chelsea Benslay,
Franklin Central High School

"I am currently a junior at Franklin Central High School. After high school, I plan to go to college to study cinematic production. I think it's important for Indianapolis to be a cultural crossroad because it makes us aware of other cultures."

– Chad Veal

TEACHER AND STUDENT OUTREACH COMMITTEE

YOUTH SUMMIT



Scholarship winners, Emily Sung and Haley Compston with Mary Kane, CEO of Sister Cities International.

Indianapolis Sister Cities offered two full scholarships to attend the 2014 Sister Cities International Youth Leadership Summit. All students ages 14-18 attending Marion County schools were eligible to apply. Haley Compston (Decatur Central High School) and Emily Sung (Southport High School) received the scholarships and traveled to San Jose, California.

The theme of the summit this year was "Water as a Shared Commodity." The summit took place from July 31 to August 1. Students participated in a range of activities that exposed them to different cultures and international challenges.

The summit educates youth about Sister Cities International and provides students an opportunity to learn about international relations, critical thinking, diplomacy and teamwork through a Model United Nations simulation.



INDY IN SLOVENIA

On September 19, 2014 the City of Piran celebrated their first Festival of Sister Cities. This showcased the fruitful partnership between Allisonville Elementary School in Indianapolis and Elementary School Cyril Kosmac in Piran, which started in early 2012.



1. Jane Gehlhausen and Susan Tomlinson present Mayor Bossman of Piran a package from Allisonville Elementary School. 2. Susan Tomlinson and Vika Krustin of Piran review the contents of the package. 3. Piran students learn about Indianapolis. 4. Sandy Brown's students from Allisonville Elementary School created a package for a school in Piran.





JABBERWOCKY

Storytelling Arts of Indiana partnered with Indy Sister Cities for a night of storytelling on March 11, 2014. Martin Baier, Raju Chinthala, Irma Galli and Lijun Zheng shared their stories with the crowd.



Storytelling Arts of Indiana
Transforming everyday life

Founded in 1988 as Stories Inc., Storytelling Arts of Indiana is a non-profit that promotes the art and use of storytelling in everyday life. From local favorites to nationally recognized names, Storytelling Arts has brought tellers from all walks of life to Hoosier audiences for over 25 years.



1. Our group of storytellers with Pauline Moffet (Indy Fringe) and Ellen Munds of Storytelling Arts of Indiana.
2. Martin Baier, President of the Cologne, Germany SCC.
3. Raju Chinthala, President of the Hyderabad, India SCC.
4. Irma Galli, Vice President of the Monza, Italy SCC.
5. Lijun Zheng from the Hangzhou, China SCC.





PARTNERING WITH FESTIVALS IN OUR COMMUNITY



1. Stephanie Collins, David Garner from the International School of Indiana with speakers, Andrea Korreck, Jason Kistler and Ann Ricciardelli with Jane Gehlhausen 2. A group discusses how to become a "Citizen Diplomat."

The theme for the 2014 Spirit & Place Festival was "Journey." Three Indianapolis professionals who were selected to travel to our sister cities on a vocational exchange shared their stories at our event, "Become a Citizen Diplomat." The event was hosted at the International School of Indiana. Guests discussed how they can be a Citizen Diplomat and be a globally conscious citizen.



INDIANAPOLIS SISTER CITIES EVENTS AND PROGRAMS 2014



1. Members of Monza SCC at the third Italian Film Festival at IUPUI. 2. The Monza, Italy SCC held a dinner at Ambrosia Restaurant to share the culture, music and arts of Italy. 3. Singers from the Indy Opera performed at the event.



MONZA,
ITALY



CELEBRA BRAZIL



An exhibit at the Indianapolis Public Library and programs for children and families on culture, dance, and music.

Celebrating 5 years



1. A visitor admires the exhibit celebrating Brazilian culture. 2. One of the display cases with information about Brazilian cuisine, history, music, native heritage, traditional dress, sports, and arts. 3. Paulo Castro (pianist), Jackie Nytes (CEO of the Indianapolis Public Library), Chad Wright (performer), Raquel Ward (President of the Campinas Brazil SCC and performer), Luri Santos (leader of capoeira group, North Star) and Jane Gehlhausen at the event.



TAIPEI, TAIWAN



TAKAO RUN

Performance hosted
by the Taiwan Sister
City Committee



1. Takao Run. 2. Students take the chopstick challenge, picking up M&M's and marshmallows. 3. A student tries on Taiwanese attire. 4. Students learn about different foods from Taiwan 5. A map of Taiwan with information about the country's food, culture and people.

Hangzhou, China



Indianapolis wins “Most Innovative” Sister City award at the U.S.-China Sister Cities Conference in Washington, D.C.



1. Madam Dai Aiping and Mr. Ruan Zhongxun of Zhejiang Foreign Affairs, Hangzhou Library CEO Chu Shu Qing, Mayor Ballard, Jane Gehlhausen and Sherry Dong attended the U.S.-China Sister Cities Conference in D. C. 2. CEO Chu Shu Qing, Jane Gehlhausen and Sherry Dong accepted the “Most Innovative” award at the conference 3. Director Chu visited Indianapolis and greeted Mayor Ballard.



4. Members of the Hangzhou, China SCC served traditional tea at the Chinese Festival on September 27, 2014. 5. Hangzhou Foreign Affairs, Director Du and Bonnie Yin visited the “Take Me There: China” exhibit at the Children’s Museum. 6 The Hangzhou delegation met with the Hangzhou, China SCC, the Indianapolis Public Library, IUPUI and other community partners.





1



2



3



4

1. The Indianapolis delegation in Hangzhou, China for Mayor's Transportation Conference includes Amy Conrad-Warner of IUPUI. 2. Meeting with Director Du and Bonnie Yin. 3. Meeting CEO Chu and Ms Liang Liang, VP of Hangzhou Library. 4. Visiting Changjiang Elementary School of Hangzhou. 5. Jane Gehlhausen, Sherry Dong of Indy delegation and Director Du Shigen of Hangzhou Foreign Affairs plant a tree to honor the Indianapolis-Hangzhou sister city relationship.



5



6

6. Sherry Dong presented at the Indiana Department of Education conference on September 23, 2014. 7. Hangzhou SCC member Shuming Fang provided cultural training at St. Luke's Catholic School during Chinese New Year.



7



8

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COUNTY, UK



8. N'hants SCC Tea chaired by Janet Fisher on September 28, 2014. 9. Greg Graham won the 1st Annual Indianapolis - Northamptonshire County SCC Mayor's Award at the Indy British Car Union - Indy British Motor Days, in Zionsville's Lion's Park. 10. Dave Gibbs, UK SCC member, checking one of the car entries.



9

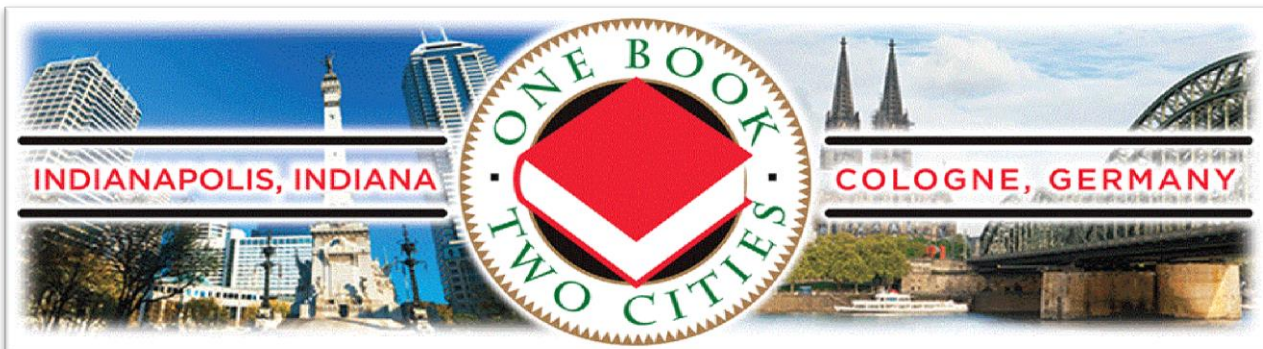


10

13



1. Cologne, Germany SCC organized a Firefighters Exchange between Indianapolis and Cologne.
2. Members of Cologne, Germany SCC visiting Cologne's Fire Department HQs.
3. First international Indy Eleven fan club in Cologne, Germany.
4. Members of Cologne, Germany SCC with Cologne's legendary soccer goal keeper Harald "Toni" Schumacher.



Cologne,
Germany



5. Mayor Ballard with Jackie Nytes, CEO of the Indianapolis Public Library at the One Book, Two Cities launch.
6. City-County employees formed a reading circle for "One Book, Two Cities."





1. Mayor and Mrs. Ballard and the Hyderabad, India SCC with the Consul General of India, Dr. Ausaf Sayeed. 2. Chief guests enjoy dinner event celebrating the 4th anniversary of Hyderabad SCC. 3. Hyderabad, SCC wins first place pavilion prize at the Sister Cities Fest. 4. India Day attendees dancing during the parade. 5. Opening ceremonies at India Day include the American national anthem.



Indy Sister Cities Fest

A Cultural Street Fair
Promoting a Global Indy!

8

Sister Cities

By the
numbers

200

Volunteers

31

Exhibitors

8

World Sports

16

Sponsors

80+

Entertainers

Thousands
of
attendees



INDIANAPOLIS SISTER CITIES CELEBRATION

The Indianapolis Sister Cities Celebration was hosted on December 8, 2014 at The Hall. Volunteers, sponsors and community partners celebrated the multicultural relationships fostered by the Indianapolis Sister Cities program. Indy's eight Sister Cities were represented through music, food and drinks.

Volunteer of the Year



Sandra Brown won "Volunteer of the Year" for her outstanding service to three committees – Teacher and Student Outreach Committee, Campinas, Brazil SCC and Piran, Slovenia SCC.

Youth Summit Scholars



Emily Sung & Haley Compston share their experience of attending the Sister Cities Youth Summit.



INTLCTR

The International Center

Outstanding
Community Partner
Award received by:
(L) Peter Kirkwood
(R) Diane Thomas



The INDIANAPOLIS PUBLIC Library

Outstanding
Community Partner
Award received by:
(L) Jessica Moore
(R) Jackie Nytes



Lilly

Outstanding
Community Partner
Award accepted by:
Tom Xiao



Thank you!



The event recognized all the sponsors, community partners and volunteers that make the Indianapolis Sister Cities program a success!



INDIANAPOLIS SISTER CITIES CELEBRATION

AWARDS

Recognizing our great volunteers



Volunteers recognized from left to right: Sandy Brown, Shumin Fang, Vidya Sagar Garg, Kathy Howe, Kuo-Long Yu, Stephanie Leslie, Not Pictured: Xin Min Yue

2014 Best Sister Cities Programming



1st Place
Teacher & Student Outreach Committee
Indy as a Global Crossroad



2nd Place
Cologne, Germany SCC
One Book Two Cities



3rd Place
Hyderabad, India SCC
4th Anniversary Dinner



Recognizing other great Sister Cities programs including: Celebra Brazil by Campinas SCC, delegation hosting by Hangzhou SCC as well as Takao Run performance and visiting artisans by Taipei SCC.



Entertainment provided by the Indianapolis Chinese Orchestra.

THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS

Indianapolis Sister Cities International is a non-profit initiative directed by Mayor Ballard's Office of International and Cultural Affairs. Indy Sister Cities depends on the generosity of corporations and organizations to provide in-kind and/or financial support.

KEY SUPPORTERS:



OTHER SUPPORTERS AND PARTNERS:

Allison Transmission	Hussey-Mayfield Library, Zionsville, IN	Mr. Vinnie Rao
Ambassadair	Indiana Economic Development Corporation	Nationalities Council
Ambrosia Restaurant	Indiana State House	NE Elementary School, Farmersburg, IN
America China Society of Indiana	Indianapolis Chinese Orchestra	NUVO
Asian Cuisine	Indianapolis Opera	Omni Severin
BGBC	Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra	Partners of the Americas
Bhar Printing	Indy Hostel	Patel Brothers
Building Tomorrow	Indy Legends Cricket Club	PAX – Program of Academic Exchange
Burmese American Community Institute	IndyGame Truck	Peace Learning Center
Catholic Charities	International Educational Exchange	Perry Township Schools
Confucius Institute	International Marketplace Coalition	Pillar Box
Covenant Christian School	International School of Indianapolis	Plews Shadley Racher and Braun
Delco Foods	Italian Heritage Society of Indiana	PNC Bank
Eagle Elementary School, Zionsville, IN	IUPUI – Office of International Affairs	PRN Associates
Embassy Suites Hotels	Lucky Lou	Radio 100.9
Exodus	Magnet Physics	SmartTravel
Formosa	Manthan International Market	Southern Wine & Spirits of Indiana
Freelance Graphics	Mikado Japanese Restaurant	St. Luke Catholic Elementary School
Global Gifts	Mr. Bharat Patel, Sun Companies	Szechwan Garden
Greater Indianapolis Telugu Association	Mr. Dilip Vadlamudi, Pyramid Consulting	The Eagles Nest
Harrison College	Mr. Randeep Chawala, Exceed Insurance	Xtrac Inc
Heidelberg Haus	Pattar & Rajmane CPA Inc.	Youth for Understanding
Herron High School		

Special thanks to the International Center, the city's administrative support partner to the Indianapolis Sister Cities International program.

INTLCTR



Taipei,
Taiwan
1978



Cologne,
Germany
1988



Monza,
Italy
1994



Piran,
Slovenia
2001



Hangzhou,
China
2008



Campinas,
Brazil
2009



Northamptonshire County,
UK
2009



Hyderabad,
India
2010

I am a Citizen Diplomat, are you?

Citizen diplomacy is the concept that the individual has the right, even the responsibility, to help shape U.S. foreign relations “one handshake at a time.” Citizen diplomats can be students, teachers, athletes, artists, business people, humanitarians, adventurers or tourists. They are motivated by a responsibility to engage with the rest of the world in a meaningful, mutually beneficial dialogue. The international exchange organizations People to People International and Sister Cities International were established as a result of a historic gathering when President Dwight Eisenhower convened the White House Summit on Citizen Diplomacy on September 11th, 1956.

Our Mission

The Indianapolis Sister Cities International program (ISCI) is committed to promoting Indianapolis as a global city. ISCI raises international awareness and understanding through cultural, educational, civic, and business engagement and exchange with our international partner cities by empowering private citizens, municipal officials, as well as leaders in the community, business, and academia to serve as citizen diplomats and global advocates.